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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1771

Examiner:

P.D. File No.: 30-4496COST

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In re Application of: GARY A. HARPELL ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/981,611

Filed: October 16, 2001

For: FLEXIBLE FABRIC FROM FIBROUS WEB AND DISCONTINUOUS DOMAIN
MATRIX

Colonial Heights, VA
May 16, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 - 1.98

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant(s) hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO-1449 form which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. Each of the documents was cited of record in application Serial Number 09/253,245 filed February 19, 1999, of which priority is claimed under 35 USC 120. Accordingly, copies of the references are not provided in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(d). However, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if an additional copy of any reference is needed.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no certification under 37 CFR §1.97(e) or fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Serial No. 09/981,611 Filed October 16, 2001

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP § 609.

Respectfully submitted,
GARY A. HARPELL ET AL.

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Virginia Szigeti (Andrews)

SIGNATURE

May 17, 2002

DATE